

WASHINGTON, D.C. Eleven Georgia communities will receive firefighting grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to enhance their abilities to respond to emergencies, including the Blakely and Naylor fire departments in the Second Congressional District, U.S. Representative Sanford Bishop has announced.

“These grants are a vitally important part of our efforts to make the country safer and more secure,” the Second District Congressman said. “These communities are helping make the whole country safer by strengthening the effectiveness of our first responders.”

The latest grants have been awarded to the following fire departments:

Blakely Fire Department, \$53,582; Naylor Fire Department, \$152,633; Willacoochee Volunteer Fire Department \$87,120; Milan Volunteer Fire Department, \$12,150; Gordon Fire Department, \$17,235; Eastman Fire Department, \$164,700; Alpharetta Fire and Emergency Services, \$128,772; Cataula Volunteer Fire Department, \$116,325; Lavonia Fire Department, \$18,045; Walker Church Volunteer Fire Department \$43,182; and the Thunderbolt Volunteer Fire Department \$76,500.

The “Assistance to Firefighters Grant” program awards one-year grants to community fire department to enhance their abilities to respond to fire and fire-related hazards. A total of \$750 million in firefighter grants is being distributed during the current fiscal year, nearly double last year’s total.